

DAN BURTON, INDIANA
CHAIRMAN

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN, NEW YORK
CONSTANCE A. MORELLA, MARYLAND
CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, CONNECTICUT
ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, FLORIDA
JOHN M. McHUGH, NEW YORK
STEPHEN HORN, CALIFORNIA
JOHN L. MICA, FLORIDA
THOMAS M. DAVIS III, VIRGINIA
DAVID M. MCINTOSH, INDIANA
MARK E. SOUDER, INDIANA
JOE SCARBOROUGH, FLORIDA
STEVEN C. LATOURETTE, OHIO
MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD, SOUTH CAROLINA
BOB BARR, GEORGIA
DAN MILLER, FLORIDA
ASA HUTCHINSON, ARKANSAS
LEE TERRY, NEBRASKA
JUDY BIGGERT, ILLINOIS
GREG WALDEN, OREGON
DOUG OSE, CALIFORNIA
PAUL RYAN, WISCONSIN
HELEN CHENOWETH, IDAHO
DAVID VITTER, LOUISIANA

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
MINORITY (202) 225-5051
TTY (202) 225-6852

February 3, 2000

HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

TOM LANTOS, CALIFORNIA
ROBERT E. WISE, JR., WEST VIRGINIA
MAJOR R. OWENS, NEW YORK
EDOLPHUS TOWNS, NEW YORK
PAUL E. KANJORSKI, PENNSYLVANIA
PATSY T. MINK, HAWAII
CAROLYN B. MALONEY, NEW YORK
ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CHAKA FATTAH, PENNSYLVANIA
ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, MARYLAND
DENNIS J. KUCINICH, OHIO
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH, ILLINOIS
DANNY K. DAVIS, ILLINOIS
JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
JIM TURNER, TEXAS
THOMAS H. ALLEN, MAINE
HAROLD E. FORD, JR., TENNESSEE
JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY, ILLINOIS

BERNARD SANDERS, VERMONT
INDEPENDENT

BY FACSIMILE

The Honorable Jay E. Hakes
Administrator
Energy Information Administration
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Hakes:

Thank you for testifying at yesterday's hearing, "Kyoto and the Internet: the Energy Implications of the Digital Economy." As I have come to expect, the Energy Information Administration's (EIA's) testimony was insightful, informative, and fair-minded.

I am writing to offer a recommendation and make a request. My recommendation has to do with EIA's future study of the issues raised at the hearing. Apparently, EIA has not had the time, resources, or research strategy to track the electricity consumption of all the equipment relevant to the Internet or, more broadly, the digital economy. I believe it would be worthwhile for EIA to go beyond measuring electricity consumption by personal computers and find out how much electricity all the devices of the digital economy may be using -- for example, the equipment used by "dot-com" companies and telecommunications (telecom) infrastructure built to handle digital traffic.

While EIA may not be able to undertake such an analysis at this juncture, I encourage EIA to begin a serious effort to determine what kind of research strategy would be required to estimate the electricity needs of the digital economy. For example, as a first step, EIA might explore, with both in-house and outside experts, the key issues and methodology needed to estimate the Internet-driven component of telecom industry investment and to unbundle the very large "other" category of electricity uses in the commercial sector data.

My request has to do with the quality and reliability of EIA's study of the costs of the Kyoto Protocol. In his written testimony, Dr. Joseph Romm argues that EIA's study suffers from five major "flaws" that render the study "irrelevant to the current policy debate about Kyoto." At the hearing, you took issue with Dr. Romm's critique. However, due to time constraints, you were not able to comment on it in detail.

Pursuant to the Constitution and Rules X and XI of the United States House of Representatives, I request that EIA respond to each of the five arguments in Dr. Romm's critique of EIA's analysis. Please deliver your response by February 18, 2000 to the majority and minority staffs of the Government Reform Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources, and Regulatory Affairs in B-377 and B-350A Rayburn House Office Building, respectively. If you have any questions about this request, please contact Staff Director Marlo Lewis at 225-1962.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David McIntosh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "McIntosh" clearly legible.

David M. McIntosh

Chairman

Subcommittee on National Economic Growth,
Natural Resources, and Regulatory Affairs

cc: The Honorable Dan Burton
The Honorable Dennis Kucinich